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A LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP

December 30, 2003



Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED
JAN 05 2004
GROUP 360

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/536,258
Filed: March 27, 2000
For: **Hedging Exchange Traded Mutual Funds or
Other Portfolio Basket Products**
Inventor: G. Gastineau *et al.*
Our Ref: 00322.0007.NPUS00

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. Reply and Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
2. Return Receipt Postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038. If extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those otherwise provided for herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned, and any fees therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038, referencing the above docket number. *A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Stimson (Reg. No. 45,429)

Enclosures



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Gastineau *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/536,258

Filed: March 27, 2000

For: Hedging Exchange Traded Mutual Funds
or Other Portfolio Basket Products

Art Unit: 3628

Examiner: Charles

Atty. Docket: 00322.0007.NPUS00

Reply and Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

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Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 4, 2003, (PTO Prosecution File Wrapper Paper No. 5), Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper.

However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038 referencing docket number 00322.0007.NPUS00.